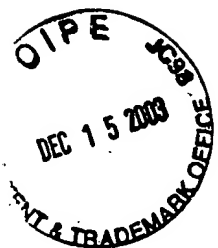


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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
GROUP 2172
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Docket No: A8009

Kehsing J. CHOU, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/399,682

Group Art Unit: 2172

Confirmation No.: 2544

Examiner: Hung Q. Pham

Filed: September 21, 1999

For: ARCHITECTURE TO ENABLE SEARCH GATEWAYS AS PART OF FEDERATED
SEARCH

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

MAIL STOP AF

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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DEC 17 2003

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 25, 2003, please amend the above-identified Application as follows on the accompanying pages.